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A N

EULOGY,

O N

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

QUÆ CÙM MAGNA MODIS MULTIS MIRANDA VIDETUR
GENTIBUS HUMANIS REGIO, VISENDAQUE FERTUR,
REBUS OPIMA BONIS, MULTA MUNITA VIRÛM VI:
NIL TAMEN HOC HABUISSE VIRO PRÆCLARIUS IN SE,
NEC SANCTUM MAGIS, ET MIRUM, CARUMQUE VIDETUR.

LUCRETIUS.

AN

EULOGY,

ON

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON,

PRONOUNCED AT *BOSTON*,

ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY SIX, MDCCC.

BEFORE THE

American Academy of Arts and Sciences,

BY THEIR APPOINTMENT, AND PUBLISHED AT THEIR REQUEST.

By JOHN DAVIS,

MEMBER OF THE ACADEMY, AND OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

BOSTON—{PRINTED BY W. SPOTSWOOD}—MDCCC.

AN

EULOGY,

ON

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON.

IN common inſtances of mortality, when a Father or a Friend returns to duſt, we do not take our final adieu, though the funeral rites be accompliſhed. Grief firſt admits, then invites conſolation, from converſing on the lives of the deceaſed: a recapitulation of their virtues and of their meritorious actions is like Oſſian's muſic, at once, "pleaſant and mournful to the ſoul."

WHEN the Father of his Country; when a Nation's Friend deſcends to the Grave, it is fit that public commemorations ſhould mingle with private condolence: that

we ſhould frequently recal to view his revered image, and repeat our votive honors to him, who was never weary in contributing to our happineſs.

WITH ſuch impreſſions, my literary Fathers and Friends, you have appointed this ſolemn meeting: with ſuch impreſſions only, could I prevail upon myſelf to attempt the taſk, which it has been your pleaſure to aſſign to me.

DEATH has frequently taken a diſtinguiſhed victim from the circle of your aſſociation. You have mourned the loſs of the venerable BOWDOIN, your revered preſident, your liberal patron, the friend and promoter of all that was excellent and pure: the public ſpirited, the munificent HANCOCK: the claſſical, eloquent COOPER: CLARKE, in whom ſhone forth all the Beauties of Holineſs, whoſe pious lips were "wet with Caſtalian Dews:" BELKNAP, learned, devout, and unaffected, worthy of being the biographer of *WASHINGTON*: SUMNER, the cheriſhed Ornament of the Commonwealth: to theſe, and many more of your beloved and reſpected aſſociates you have bidden a ſad farewel: they are removed from your pleaſant meetings to the cold and ſilent manſions of the Grave. This day you lament the loſs of one, who was not indeed an attendant at your literary interviews; but who was ſtill moſt dear: whoſe benign and happy influences travelled to their object, unimpeded by diſtance, like the mild and ſteady beams of planetary light.

"THOU ſleepeſt the ſleep of Death, but we are not "unmindful of thee *O! Achilles:* in life and in death, thou art equally the object of our regard and veneration."

Thus ſang the Grecian Bard, to ſooth the ſhade of a Hero: with like affectionate reverence, with pious ſenſibilities, do we cheriſh thy memory, departed *WASHINGTON*, and pay repeated viſits to thy Tomb.

IN contemplating a life, whoſe maturer portion was ſo ſingularly ſplendent, we are naturally prompted to look back to its commencement. Correſponding to that conſiſtency of character, by which he was diſtinguiſhed, marks of ſuperiority are imprinted on the very threſhold of his days.

IN the early dawn of manhood, delicate and important public duties were committed to his charge. Then appeared ſome of thoſe heroic virtues, that preſaged his future greatneſs. Unſhaken fortitude, firm perſeverance, and ſound diſcretion. Behold the intrepid meſſenger purſuing his weary way through a pathleſs wilderneſs. The aſſaults of the ſavage do not intimidate him: the ſeverities of winter do not arreſt his progreſs. He returns in ſafety and in honor: though Gallic artifice ſtrewed his way with thorns: though the waters of the Allegany had well nigh extinguiſhed his valued life, when their impetuous current rolled over his youthful head.* Illuſtrious Man, then, as in all thy life, the conſcious ſatisfaction reſulting from a faithful diſcharge of duty, was thy ſufficient, thy beſt reward: but how might it have cheered thy exalted ſpirit to have known, that far beyond the limits of thy long and arduous journey ſhould extend an

* See his JOURNAL, publiſhed in the Maſſachuſetts Magazine, 1789.

Empire, which ſhould acknowledge thee, as the moſt diſtinguiſhed inſtrument of its eſtabliſhment.

THE ſame memorable ground next becomes the theatre of his military achievements; and at the early age of twenty-ſeven, he has attracted the admiration of his Country and retired to his beloved reſidence, with public teſtimonials of their approbation and regard.

AGRICULTURAL employments, domeſtic endearments, and the diſcharge of civic truſts dignify and adorn the next fifteen years of his intereſting life. But not theſe alone. In that calm interval, when common minds might have been corrupted by indulgence, or benumbed with fatiety, the ſuperior mind of *WASHINGTON* was improving under the wholeſome regimen of ſyſtematic diſcipline. Faithful to the high obligations of truth and duty, faithful to himſelf, he ſtudied the various relations, that bind the man and the citizen, and, in the ſhade of peace and retirement, preſcribed to himſelf thoſe rules and maxims of conduct, on which was reared the lofty edifice of his fame.

WITH correct and extenſive views of the rights and intereſts of his country; with lively ſenſibilities, when they were invaded or endangered, he had a juſt title to the high honor of convening with that illuſtrious band of patriots and civilians, who compoſed the firſt national Council of United America. By that Council, faithful and intelligent, deeply impreſſed with the mighty intereſts intruſted to their care, and well apprized that the fate of their Country depended on their choice, he is unanimouſly appointed to command the feeble armies of an oppreſſed

people, againſt the veteran arms of the firſt European power. He ſuffers himſelf to be advanced to that "painful pre-eminence," though his ſtrong and comprehenſive mind could not have been unmindful of the vaſt "ſea of troubles," on which he was embarking.

WITH a leſs correct ſenſe of public duty, he might have urged many claims to avoid the ponderous taſk; and in a dubious conteſt, multitudes from political opinion, and many, from an indulgent regard to an opulent and diſtinguiſhed citizen, would have dignified the cautious deciſion, with the name of wiſdom. He liſtens to no ſuch unworthy ſuggeſtion. He takes counſel with himſelf—He obeys the call of his Country—He haſtens to the ſcene of action; and at no period, perhaps, does his conduct appear more elevated and intereſting, than at that impreſſive moment, when he placed himſelf at the head of his applauded band of *undiſciplined husbandmen*, on yonder claſſic plains.

THE purity and magnanimity, manifeſted by the acceptance of that arduous truſt, taught his admiring country to expect, with firm reliance, that, with thoſe hopeful pledges, were aſſociated all the protecting train of martial and of manly virtues.

THOSE animating hopes were completely realized. Modelled by his great example, the camp became a ſchool of virtue, as well as of military ſcience. There were ſeen unſhaken fidelity; unſullied honor; humane and ſocial ſympathies; pure love of country; reſpect for the magiſtracy, and reverence for the laws. He ſuſtained

the ſtandard of American Liberty with energies ſuited to her character: tempering authority with mildneſs, bravery with diſcretion.——Intrepid in danger, clement in victory, undiſmayed by diſaſter, he bore the precious depoſit through a long and perilous conflict, animated by the applauſes of a grateful country and the admiration of the World.

THE eventful occurrences, that developed his talents and his virtues, are too deeply impreſſed upon the memory of thoſe whom I addreſs, to require a repetition. They were ſtrongly aſſociated with all you held moſt dear. Revolving years, life's multiplied concerns, a long and happy participation of ſucceeding peace and proſperity, have not effaced them from your remembrance. And ye, ingenuous Youth, whoſe exiſtence commenced in the AGE of *WASHINGTON*, who have ſeen only his ſetting ſun, in the mirror of hiſtory you will behold the bright reflection of his meridian beams. You will learn of your revered ſires, how they were animated by their benign and cheering influence. Aſk of thoſe who bare you: they will tell you, how his guardian form diſpelled diſtreſſing terrors, and protected by his arm, with what calm complacence they watched your infant ſlumbers.

THE elevated ſentiments and the expanded views, which inſpired the mind of every active citizen, during the memorable conteſt for Liberty and Independence, were not ſatisfied with the firm purſuit, or the aſſured proſpect of thoſe intereſting objects. During a ſtruggle for political exiſtence, you ſtudied the liberal embelliſhments of a ſtate, and like PLINY on *Vesuvius*, attended to the

purſuits of Science, undiſmayed by the thunder and the ſtorm, by which you were aſſailed. This literary eſtabliſhment was a child of the revolution. Europe beheld it with admiration. The friends of America contemplated it with delight. They conſidered it as affording renewed evidence, that you were reſolved on the attainment of Freedom, and were worthy of its enjoyment.

THE illuſtrious Man, whoſe loſs we now deplore, was among the firſt of your elected aſſociates. It was a time of multiplied calamities. The military operations of the enemy were to be oppoſed in five different ſtates of the union. A mind occupied with ſuch immenſe concerns, could not be expected to apply itſelf to the immediate objects of your inſtitution. Yet he accepts your invitation; looking forward, doubtleſs, to the happier days, when the arts of peace ſhould ſucceed the horrors of war. As the firſt among the public characters of the age; as the pride and defence of your country, he was entitled to the earlieſt and moſt reſpectful expreſſions of your attention: but he was your aſſociate by ſtill more appropriate characters, by diſpoſitions and accompliſhments, altogether congenial to the nature and end of your inſtitution.

IT is among the declared objects of your inquiry, to examine the various ſoils of the country, to aſcertain their natural growths and the different methods of culture: to promote and encourage agriculture, arts, manufactures and commerce: to cultivate the knowledge of the natural hiſtory of the country, and to determine the uſes, to which its various productions may be applied.

PURSUITS of this nature always commanded his attention, and to ſome of them he was peculiarly attached. They were frequently the topic of his converſation, and the ſubject of his correſpondence, with ingenious and public ſpirited men, in different parts of the world.

WITH a mind well-fitted to acquire juſt conceptions on any ſubject, to which his attention was directed, he would, I am perſuaded, have been diſtinguiſhed in the abſtruſer branches of ſcience, if the courſe of life, which he had choſen, or to which he was impelled, had not been incompatible with the purſuit. In patient inveſtigation, unwearied aſſiduity, and ſyſtematic arrangement, he was excelled by none. The uniform ſucceſs, which attended his operations in military and political life, evinces great ſolidity of judgment: and he, who could produce ſuch correct and proſperous reſults, in the great affairs of a nation, ſo liable to be defeated or impeded, by the ever varying humours and prejudices of men, with like application, might have been equally diſtinguiſhed in the ſteady regions of ſcience, whoſe permanent relations and connected truths, never fail to diſcloſe themſelves to induſtrious reſearch and attentive contemplation.

BUT though a man of contemplative habits, he was ſtill more fitted for action. It became neceſſary for the repoſe and happineſs of his country, that he ſhould leave *the aſylum of his declining years.* Obedient to that voice, which he could never hear but with *veneration and love*, he exchanges a retreat which he had choſen with the

fondest predilection, for the anxieties and toils of political elevation. How was he honored in the midſt of the people, in coming forth from the ſhades of his retirement. "He was as the morning ſtar in the midſt of a cloud; "and as the moon at the full; as the *ſun*, ſhining upon "the temple of the MOST HIGH; and as the rainbow, "giving light in the bright cloud."*—

THE duties of an employment, which is accepted with reluctance, are frequently diſcharged with ſymptoms of wearineſs or diſguſt: but he engaged in the multiplied labours of his new and arduous ſtation, as if it were the fond object of his choice; and though enjoying a weight of character, which would peculiarly facilitate his meaſures, yet he diſcovered a laudable ſolicitude, that they ſhould poſſeſs an intrinſic propriety, and conducted himſelf with as much caution and circumſpection, as if he were for the firſt time a candidate for public favour.

THE intereſting objects of his care, and their direct and intimate connexion with the ſolid intereſt and permanent welfare of his country were indeed congenial to the beſt wiſhes of his heart, and fitted to relieve the unavoidable ſolicitudes of his ſtation. To regard with comprehenſive and equal eye the great aſſemblage of communities and intereſts over which he preſided: to ſettle pure and ſolid foundations of national policy, conſiſtent with the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven has ordained: to eſtabliſh public credit: to revive mutual confidence: to introduce with the native tribes on the frontiers, a ſyſtem, correſponding with the

* ECCLESIASTICUS.

mild principles of religion and philanthropy: to provide for the national ſecurity, by ſuitable military eſtabliſhments: to found the ſafety of the United States, on the baſis of ſyſtematic and ſolid arrangement: to guard againſt infractions of the laws of nations: to maintain a friendly intercourſe with foreign powers: to exhibit that ſtability and wiſdom in the public counſels, which ſhould be a juſt ground of public confidence: to adopt meaſures for the accompliſhment of *our* duties to the reſt of the world, and create a capacity of exacting from them the diſcharge of *their duties* towards us: to maintain to the United States their due rank among the nations of the Earth: to vindicate the majeſty of the laws, againſt violence and inſurrection: to turn the machinations of the wicked to the confirming of the conſtitution: to extinguiſh the cauſes of external differences, on terms compatible with national rights and national honor: to mingle in the operations of government every degree of moderation and tenderneſs, which national juſtice, dignity and ſafety might permit, and to exemplify the pre-eminence of a free government, by all the attributes, which might win the affections of its citizens and command the reſpect of the world.*—Theſe were the momentous purſuits, which occupied his elevated mind, and engaged his warmeſt affections: for theſe purpoſes, he invited the aid and co-operation of the enlightened counſels of the Union; and, in ſpite of the petulance of oppoſition, or the effuſions of faction, his proſperous

* See WASHINGTON's Speeches to Congreſs, from which the above ſummary of his preſidential purſuits is ſelected, with little variation from his own impreſſive language.

country and its grateful inhabitants, will teſtify that they have been accompliſhed.

WITH views and occupations, ſo comprehenſive and elevated, he did not loſe ſight of *Learning* and of the *Arts*. "There is nothing," ſaid he, (in his addreſs to the firſt congreſs) "that can better deſerve your attentive "patronage, than the promotion of Science and Literature. "Knowledge is in every country, the ſureſt baſis of public "happineſs. In *one*, in which the meaſures of government "receive their impreſſion ſo immediately from the ſenſe of "the community, it is proportionably eſſential." To the Truſtees and Faculty of the Univerſity of Pennſylvania, in reply to their reſpectful addreſs, he acknowledges himſelf gratified *in being conſidered, by the patrons of literature, as one of their number;* being *fully apprized of the influence which ſound learning has on religion and manners, on government, liberty and laws;* and expreſſing his confidence that *the ſame unremitting exertions, which under all the blaſting ſtorms of war, caused the arts and ſciences to flouriſh in America, would bring them nearer to maturity, when invigorated by the milder rays of peace.* To the Univerſity of Harvard, he communicates *his ſincere ſatisfaction in learning the flouriſhing ſtate of their literary republic. Unacquainted*, he adds, *with the expreſſion of ſentiments which I do not feel, you will do me juſtice in believing, confidently, in my diſpoſition to promote the intereſts of ſcience and true religion.*

HIS cloſing addreſs to Congreſs is enriched with like paternal ſentiments; and at a more ſolemn moment, when completing the laſt arrangement of his terreſtrial

concerns, he makes careful proviſion for a literary eſtabliſhment which he had before emphatically recommended; appropriating to the inſtitution of a NATIONAL UNIVERSITY a very liberal donation, which his native ſtate, as an expreſſion of their grateful ſenſe of his ſervices, had placed at his diſpoſal.

THESE expreſſions of his ſentiments and views indicate the character, which he would probably prefer to ſuſtain. Not merely that of a warrior, or ſtateſman; but as the enlightened friend of man, and all his beſt enjoyments: the advocate of religion: the ſupporter of virtue: and, to adopt the language of your charter, the cultivator or patron of "every art and ſcience which "may tend to advance the intereſt, dignity and happineſs "of a free, independent and virtuous people."

THE artiſt who executed the ſtatue which adorns the capital of Virginia, had juſt conceptions of the moſt appropriate character and attitude. Its ſimple *costume*, is well adapted to deſignate the founder and defender of American Liberty: the protector of agriculture: the repreſentative of a happy and peaceful nation.*

IT would require little aid from the imagination, to render the ſignificant emblem of your ſociety an apt memorial of your late illuſtrious aſſociate. Let MINERVA, with the ſpear and ſhield, repreſent his venerable form. The implements of huſbandry, the hill crowned with oaks, and the field of native grain, indicate his favorite employment. The riſing city, the inſtruments of philoſophy, the approaching ſhip, and the ſun above the cloud, are lively images of the benign and happy influ-

* Anecdotes of the Sculptor HOUDON. Month. Mag. Sept. 1798.

ence of his life, on commerce and the arts, and the advancing greatneſs of his country.

WHILE contemplating the character of *WASHINGTON*, in a literary point of view, I muſt not omit to conſider his ſtyle. It is diſtinguiſhed for purity, propriety, and preciſion; and ſome of the moſt correct philologiſts have pronounced, that moſt of the qualities of a good ſtyle are united in his compoſitions. In his letters he is plain: in his public addreſſes elegant: in all he is correct, expreſſing in a ſmall compaſs his clear conceptions, without tireſome verboſity, or any parade of ornament. In attending to what has fallen from his pen, the connexion between modes of thinking and writing; between character and compoſition is apparent. His writings are marked with the ſtrong and pleaſing features of ſincerity, ſimplicity and dignity.

IT is the complaint of LIVY, that eulogies, though an uſeful incitement to great and virtuous actions, tend to corrupt the truth of hiſtory. In this regard, I have no apprehenſions. I have aſcribed no excellencies to the elevated character, which I have attempted to ſketch, that you are not witneſſes he poſſeſſed: but I ſenſibly feel, how imperfect will be the picture, which I ſhall have exhibited. With great ſincerity, ſhall I adopt the *ſuspensive inscription* of the Grecian artiſts, expreſſing that they were employed in the execution of ſuch a ſtatue or picture, rather than that they had in any degree finiſhed it *.

* HARRIS'S HERMES.

AN admired writer, ſpeaking of the caſual reſemblances of perſons and things, obſerves that in the revolution of ages, the wheels of Fortune, will after a long interval run in the ſame track. I addreſs myſelf to men, to whom the tranſactions of paſt ages are familiar, who have been accuſtomed to examine and to eſtimate the ſplendid characters that have attracted the attention of the world. Permit me to inquire if you have found the man, who in merit and in fame, in all the genuine ingredients of true glory and ſolid happineſs, can be compared with our lamented CHIEF.

THAT raſhneſs and exceſs, which tarniſh the fame of *Macedonia's Madman and the Swede*, appear in many of the heroes of ancient and modern ſtory. Some unworthy propenſity, or ſome unhappy error is perceived amidſt all the effulgence of their glory. POMPEY could win the affections of the ſenate and the people of Rome, by diſbanding his victorious armies and reaſſuming the humble air and deportment of a private citizen: but he could alſo deſcend to corrupt the people with money; to employ the vileſt citizens to embarraſs the magiſtrates in the execution of their functions, that his interpoſition might be rendered neceſſary by commotion: verifying the juſtice of the remark, that he could not reſolve to uſurp power, but would have been glad to have had it tendered to him as a gift *.

THE celebrated reign of the philoſophic emperor MARCUS ANTONINUS is clouded by the indiſcreet adoption of COMMODUS, and his too great indulgence of the

* Monteſq; Grand. & Decad. &c.

infamous FAUSTINA; by the elevation of her lovers to poſts of honor; by decreeing her deification, and requiring the youth of Rome to pay their vows before her altars.

To the firſt PETER of Ruſſia, the title of GREAT has been more permanent, than in moſt inſtances, in which it has been aſſumed or beſtowed: but we are ſhocked at the recorded inſtances of his cruelties, and he is quoted by a celebrated theoriſt,* to exemplify the exiſtence of public ſpirit, without the ſpirit of humanity.

VICTOR AMADEUS, with apparent magnanimity, reſigned his crown to his ſon, and ſought the placid enjoyments of privacy and retreat. But his retirement became irkſome to him: he languiſhed for the re-enjoyment of power, caballed againſt his ſon and ended his days in a priſon.

A LOUIS XIV. and a FREDERIC, with all the ſplendor of their lives, died without exciting any regrets: and a MARLBOROUGH, famed for his conſummate prudence, as well as for his military achievements, was accuſed of the meanneſs of avarice, and of protracting a ſanguinary war for the enlargement of property and power.

IF I were to ſelect the character, among the great men of antiquity, exhibiting the neareſt reſemblance to *WASHINGTON*, it would be TIMOLEON; memorable for the defence and deliverance of *Sicily*, from external and internal foes; for the eſtabliſhment of civility and order; and for the quiet enjoyment, to a revered

* ADAM SMITH'S THEORY OF MORAL SENTIMENTS.

and honorable old age, of the rewards of his virtuous labors, in the boſom of a grateful people. To that degree did he enjoy the affection of the Sicilians, ſays his biographer, that no war ſeemed concluded, no laws enacted, no political regulation made in a proper manner, unleſs reviſed and touched by him. He was the maſter-builder who put the laſt hand to the work, and beſtowed upon it a happy elegance and perfection; though at that time Greece boaſted a number of great men, whoſe achievements were highly diſtinguiſhed. TIMOTHEUS, AGESILAUS, PELOPIDAS and EPAMINONDAS, (the laſt of whom TIMOLEON principally vied with in the race of glory) yet in this they differ from TIMOLEON, that we diſcover in their actions a certain labor and effort which diminiſhes their luſtre, and ſome of them afforded room for cenſure, and were followed by repentance or remorſe.

HIS trophies coſt his fellow citizens no tears, nor put any of them in mourning; and yet, in leſs than eight years he delivered SICILY from its inteſtine miſeries and diſtempers, and reſtored it to the native inhabitants. His military labors finiſhed, he returned to SYRACUSE, and laid down his command; excuſing himſelf to the people from any further ſervice, as he had brought their affairs to a happy concluſion. His old age was cheriſhed, as that of a common father. He died of a ſlight illneſs, co-operating with length of years. His funeral was attended by many thouſands of men and women, crowned with garlands, and clothed in white. The lamentations mingled with the praiſes of the deceaſed, evinced that

the honors paid him was not a matter of courſe, or in compliance with a duty enjoined, but the teſtimony of real ſorrow and ſincere affection *.

In this deſcription, the analogy, which I have ſuggeſted is apparent. In other particulars, there is no reſemblance. TIMOLEON was a foreigner in SICILY. *WASHINGTON* had the ſupreme ſatisfaction of imbibing and diſplaying all his virtues and talents, in his own beloved country. As if to exemplify his own ſage reflections upon the inexpediency of foreign education and accompliſhments for an American citizen, he like

> " The tall maſt that bears our Flag on high,
> " Grew in OUR SOIL and ripen'd in OUR SKY." †

TIMOLEON was long wretched, if not guilty in the death of his brother, and was a prey to ſorrow and remorſe for the ſpace of twenty years. No baleful domeſtic occurrence darkened the days of *WASHINGTON*. Troubles and anxieties, inſeparable from the cup of life, doubtleſs aſſailed him; but thoſe he ſuſtained with dignity and equanimity.

TIMOLEON was cenſurable in cauſing the condemnation and the death of the wife and daughter of ICETAS.

THE tender ſympathies of humanity were always cheriſhed in the breaſt of *WASHINGTON*; and in a war peculiarly tending to kindle and inflame the human paſſions, he is chargeable with no inſtance of cruelty or revenge.

* PLUTARCH'S LIFE OF TIMOLEON.
† J. ALLEN'S POEMS.

TIMOLEON was blind and helpleſs in his old age, and the reſpect with which he was regarded was mingled with pity; reminding us of LUCAN's image of an aged tree, caſting a ſhade only by its trunk. The declining years of *WASHINGTON* were without apparent decay. He ſeemed like the mountain oak; and to the laſt, we looked for ſhelter beneath its branches, againſt the impending ſtorm.

IN ſtudying the character of *WASHINGTON*, we cannot refrain inquiring, by what principles or motives he was thus uniformly ſwayed to the practice of virtue and the ſteady purſuit of excellence. Much doubtleſs was due to his habitual reſpect for the approbation and eſteem of his fellow citizens: and in attributing the formation of his character and fame, in any degree, to this ſource, we pay a juſt tribute to his countrymen, a tribute, which he was ever prompt to beſtow. It was owing to their *steady and strenuous support*, he acknowledges, that he did not *sink under the oppression* which occaſionally aſſailed him. "Poſterity," ſaid he, "will regard with admiration "and gratitude the patience, perſeverance, and valor, "which achieved our revolution: they will cheriſh the "remembrance of virtues, which had but few parallels "in former times, and which will add new luſtre to the "moſt ſplendid pages of hiſtory*."—On ſuch expreſſions, he appears to dwell with delight. Thus did PYRRHUS acknowledge his obligations to the EPIROTS, when honored by them with the name of the EAGLE. *If I am an EAGLE*,

* ANSWER to the PEOPLE of SOUTH CAROLINA, 1790.

ſaid he, *it is upon your arms—upon your wings that I have riſen.*

To this motive was added that delicate and refined MORAL SENSE, which is the guardian and protectreſs of all the virtues: which forbids committing any thing baſe or unworthy; any thing unbecoming the dignity of man, a due reverence for himſelf, and the rank he holds in the ſcale of rational beings.

BUT above all, he was influenced by the more permanent and operative principle of Religion: by the firm and active perſuaſion of an *ALL-SEEING, ALL-POWERFUL DEITY:* by the high conſciouſneſs of future accountability and the aſſured hope and proſpect of Immortality. Contraſting his ſublime example, founded on ſuch a baſis, with the tribe of infidel heroes, who have lately appeared on the bloody theatre of EUROPE, we cannot but apply the impreſſive language of a ſober and intelligent heathen. "Earthquakes, lightning, ſtorms "and torrents have an amazing power: but as for "JUSTICE nothing participates of THAT, without thinking "and reaſoning upon *GOD.*"

SOUND ſcience will ever be found promotive of rational religion and the ſolid intereſts of the Commonwealth: but there is a *leproſy of falſe knowledge*, which is akin to impiety, and ſaps the compacted fabric of ſocial order. It is thus in the political ſyſtem. The mild and lovely form of *TRUE LIBERTY*, is oppoſed by a harlot bluſtering counterfeit.

IT is the pride of this Society, it is the glory and felicity of the Nation, to have at their head A MAN, to

whom the knowledge and the practice of the GOOD and the TRUE are perfectly familiar: whom no falſe theories can delude, no deceptive inticements ſeduce, no demons of miſchief diſmay.

UNDER ſuch auſpices, you will walk ſafely and ſucceſsfully: preferring the ſober paths of practicable good to the brilliant allurements of ſeductive unſubſtantial novelties: adhering to old and approved truths, while indulging in new inquiries: ſolicitous for improvement, but ſtill retaining a juſt reverence for the approved maxims of ancient prudence. Let us hope that the caſual abuſes of Science, or the exentricities of ſome of its profeſſors, will not impede its cultivation and encouragement. Falſe philoſophy is indeed the deceitful DELILAH, which will enervate and corrupt the ſtrongeſt eſtabliſhments and deliver them nerveleſs, and reſiſtleſs, to the *Philiſtines of Unfidelity*, the Lords of Anarchy and Miſrule: but ſound Science with rational Religion, will be the firm ſupporters of the Magiſtracy to the lateſt time; as AARON and HUR ſuſtained the hand of MOSES, *until the going down of the ſun.*